

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 29, 2000

LB 1234

It's...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Jones, will you yield for a question?

SENATOR SCHMITT: Senator Jones, if this bill was to pass, we haven't talked about this before, but if this was to pass, raise the corn prices that are selling to the ethanol, what's this going to do to the corn prices to the corn that's going to go to the cattle feeders?

SENATOR JONES: Well, the more that is used, the more it will probably raise it. So I would say if we use a lot of corn steep, which is a by-product of ethanol plants, well, then it will probably raise the corn prices.

SENATOR SCHMITT: And they have already, as I understand from the ethanol plants, raised the corn by-product that they're selling back to the feedlots, and there isn't enough to take care of all the feedyards, so the feedyards are going to have to buy regular corn. And in order to get that, they're going to be competing with the ethanol plant, wouldn't you say?

SENATOR JONES: Yeah, there would be a little competition there. I guess what bothers me right now is that ethanol itself has raised between 27 and 28 cents since the first of the year, just ethanol alone. And why, I don't know.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Well, I don't know that either, Senator Jones, but I just...I guess was wondering here, you know. We may be helping out one entity of the ag organization with the corn producer, but what are we going to do with our cattle producer? And I guess maybe my thought along that line, you know, well, do you want to drink whiskey or do you want to eat beef? But I don't know, you know, it's a question I guess that I have when we're trying to deal with this, what we're going to do with the cattle feeder.

SENATOR JONES: I liked your amendment the other day when you was talking and said mandate 10 percent buffalo in that there beef, everybody.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Well, or elk, you're going to have some elk up